

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 03505 281837Z POSS DUPE  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /064 W  
-----010717 076564 /21

R 281326Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2203  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SANA

S E C R E T CAIRO 3505

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR SO YS EG  
SUBJ: FAHMY ON PDRY AND SOMALIA

1. DURING MY MEETING WITH FAHMY ON FEBRUARY 26, HE  
ALLUDED TO CZECH FONMIN'S RECENT VISIT TO EGYPT (CAIRO 2951).  
CZECH, WHO HAD JUST SPENT FOUR DAYS EACH IN SOMALIA  
AND PDRY, EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION THAT BOTH OF  
THESE COUNTRIES HAVE STRONG "PROGRESSIVE," SOCIALIST  
GOVERNMENTS.

2. CZECH FONMIN'S DISCUSSION PROMPTED FAHMY COMMENT  
THAT BOTH PDRY AND SOMALIA MUST BE CONSIDERED TO BE FIRMLY  
IN COMMUNIST CAMP. I REMINDED HIM OF CONCERN WE HAD  
EXPRESSED LAST YEAR ABOUT SOVIET NAVAL BASE IN BERBERA.  
RE PDRY, I RECALLED THAT A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO BOTH  
PRESIDENT SADAT AND HE AHD TOLD US OF GOE EFFORTS, IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH SAUDIS, TO STRENGTHEN PDRY PRESIDENT  
RUBAYY 'ALI AGAINST HIS RIVAL ABDUL FATAH ISMAIL.  
AT THE TIME BOTH SADAT AND HE HAD EMPHASIZED THAT  
RUBAYY 'ALI WAS MODERATE AND ANXIOUS TO CURB HIS

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STRONGLY PRO-SOVIET RIVAL. I RECALLED SAUDIS HAVE IN  
FACT ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PDRY.  
HAD EGYPTIAN ESTIMATE CHANGED?

3. FAHMY CLAIMED THAT THE REPORTS OF THE EGYPTIAN  
AMABASSADOR IN ADEN MAKE IT CLEAR THAT RUBAYY 'ALI ABDUL  
FATAH ISMAIL SPLIT IS MAINLY A TACTICAL MATTER. EACH

IS VYING FOR POWER, BUT BOTH ARE AND WANT TO REMAIN IN THE "COMMUNIST CAMP". FAHMY CLAIMED IT HAD BEEN MAINLY SAUDIS, NOT EGYPTIANS, WHO HAD ARGUED FOR SOME ACCOMMODATION WITH PDRY. ASKED IF SADAT NOW ALSO ACCEPTS ABOVE ESTIMATE, FAHMY SAID YES. IN SAUDI ARABIA, HE NOTED, PRINCE FAHD AND PRINCE SULTAN REMAIN AT ODDS ABOUT SAUDI POLICY TOWARD THE PDRY. SULTAN SHARES THE CURRENT GOE VIEW THAT THERE IS NO ESSENIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RUBAYY 'ALI AND ABDUL FATAH ISMAIL AND CONTINUES TO BE SKEPTICAL OF CURRENT SAG POLICY TOWARD PDRY.

4. I RECALLED FAHMY HAD SPOKEN TO US SLIGHTLY OVER A YEAR AGO RE DESIRABILITY REESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PDRY AND ASKED FOR HIS CURRENT ATTITUDE. FAHMY EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE THAT WE HAVE NOT YET REESTABLISHED AN EMBASSY IN ADEN. GIVEN HEAVY SOVIET AND EASTERN BLOC PRESENCE IN PDRY, HE URGED THAT WE DO SO ASAP. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING OUR ACTIVITIES IN ADEN MIGHT BE CIRCUMSCRIBED, HE OPINED SUCH AN OFFICE IS DESIREABLE TO ENABLE US TO "WATCH" SOVIET AND EASTERN BLOC ACTIVITIES. ANY SUCH OFFICE, HE SUGGESTED, SHOULD HAVE STRONG INTELLIGENCE COMPONENT. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Type:** TE  
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